

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SALT LAKE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board Meeting
and Closed Executive Session

November 1, 2016

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District met in a Board Meeting and Closed Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 440 East 100 South, Salt Lake City, Utah.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: President Heather Bennett, Vice President Tiffany Sandberg, Melissa Ford, Katherine Kennedy, Kristi Swett, and Omyya Min, Student Member.

Members Excused: J. Michael Clára, and Rosemary Emery.

Also Present: Alexa Cunningham, Superintendent; Janet Roberts, Business Administrator; Kristina Kindl, Director of Policy and Legal Services; Mozelle Orton, Executive Director of Human Resources; Barbara Kuehl, Chief Academic Officer; Brian Conley, Chief School Improvement Officer; Larry Madden, Chief Operations Officer; Chris Jenson, Principal Highland High School; Greg Maughan, Principal East High School; Katie Ieremia, Assistant Principal Highland High School; Mary Lane Grisley, Assistant Principal Highland High School, and representing the Salt Lake Association for School Administrators; Ana Park, representing the Salt Lake Education Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; Ricky McCandless, representing the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office; Jason Stevenson, Board Candidate Precinct #5; Jason Olsen, Public Information Officer; Lisa Alleman, Superintendent's Office, and others in the audience.

In accordance with the agenda prepared for the Board Meeting of November 1, 2016, six motions were made. Items are reported as listed in the agenda and not necessarily in the order they were considered.

The meeting was called to order by President Bennett, who presided.

1. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Litigation; Negotiations; and/or Property

There was no Closed Executive Session for Litigation; Negotiations; and/or Property.

B. Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual; and/or Deployment of Security Personnel, Devices, or Systems

There was no Closed Executive Session for Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual; and/or Deployment of Security Personnel, Devices, or Systems.

VOTE RECORD	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
BENNETT	X		
CLÁRA			X
EMERY			X
FORD	X		
KENNEDY	X		
SANDBERG	X		
SWETT	X		
A Absent	Ab Abstention	F Failed	
N "No" Vote	NA No Action	T Tabled	
W Withdrawn	*Unanimous Approval		
**Members Making Motion			

2. BOARD MEETING

- President Bennett welcomed everyone in the audience. She recognized the presence of Mary Lane Grisley, representing the Salt Lake Association for School Administrators; Ana Park, representing the Salt Lake Education Association; Janet Clark, representing the Child Nutrition Employees Association; Cindy Mills, representing the Salt Lake Educational Office Personnel Association; and Ricky McCandless, representing the Salt Lake City Mayor’s Office. She excused Board Members Clára and Emery from the meeting.
- Chris Jenson led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- Board Members Ford and Swett recognized the National Merit Scholar semifinalists from East High, Jakob Bates; from West High, Ardyn Ford, Jessica Graham, McKenzie McLean, Jane Moffatt, Nathan Obbard, India Phillips, and Audrey Wilhelm; and from Highland High Claire Adler, Kevin Hardy, Rohan Jairam, Amanda Jiang, Vismaya Kharkar, Na Yeon Kim, Kathy Liu, Benjamin Pearce, Titus Quah, Daeun Sung, Michael Tao, Liam Thomas, and Annie Yun. Chris Jenson commended these students for the hard work involved in achieving this accomplishment. Certificates of recognition were presented to the semifinalists in attendance.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

*(1) A motion was made to approve six of the eight items included in the Consent Agenda. These items are listed below. Items A3, Minutes for the Board Meeting, October 4, 2016; and A4, Minutes for the Board Meeting, October 11, 2016, were moved to the Action Agenda.

**(Swett, and Katherine)

Prior to the motion, President Bennett explained a request was received to remove the Purchasing/Accounting Report and the Human Resources Report as well, but since the reason was not provided at the time of the request, those items would remain on the Consent Agenda.

Ms. Kennedy pointed out the Fall Enrollment 2016 numbers have been updated and a revised copy was provided to board members. A copy will be added to the official minutes.

1. The Purchasing/Accounting Report, included a breakdown of items costing over and under \$50,000, increases to existing purchase orders, a payment voucher report that includes travel and professional expenditures, the budget report for September 2016, and the School Financial Report for Student Activities for the three months ended September 30, 2016.

2. The Human Resources Department Report, included new contract employment for eleven employees, changes for two, and releases for one.
3. Minutes of the Board Business Meeting held October 4, 2016. *This item was moved to the Action Agenda.*
4. Minutes of the Board Study Session held October 11, 2016. *This item was moved to the Action Agenda.*
5. Minutes of the Board Study Session held October 18, 2016.
6. Trip Request for Innovations High – Seattle, Washington, April 6-9, 2016, for students to participate in the Journalism National Conference.
7. Trip Request for Innovations High – Washington, DC, May 13-17, 2016 to enhance student education through real world experiences focused on U.S. History.
8. Board Policies
 - a. Policy G-8, Transporting Students
 - b. Policy I-8, Student Progress and Academic Achievement
 - c. Policy I-18, Acceptable Student Use of Internet, Computers, and Network Resources
 - d. Policy I-19, Overnight and Extended Trips or Activities

B. REQUESTS TO SPEAK

1. There were no requests to speak

C. REPORTS

1. Highlights from School Improvement Plans.

- a. Highland High School. Chris Jenson, Principal, introduced Assistant Principals Mary Lane Grisley and Katie Ieremia. Mr. Jenson said Highland has really strong ACT testing scores and consistently scores at or better than state averages in most areas.

Mr. Jenson said Highland's graduation rates have steadily increased over the years. He believes the Freshman Success Program, has been a contributing factor. He said he expects to see additional improvements with the new funding to provide a student advocate for each grade as well as three more para pros.

Mr. Jenson shared information on AP testing. He said Highland doesn't have pre-requisites for students to take AP classes and there is an expectation every student will try to take at least one AP class. He said the number of students who take AP tests is increasing.

Mr. Jenson said he is very proud of the seven National Merit Scholarship semifinalists from Highland. He also said Highland has an IB diploma program that is very different from West High and they are proud to offer academic variety in the district. He said they use an

Academic and Attendance Scoreboard which takes GPA and attendance into account and posts class scores to create friendly competition among students to improve.

Mr. Jenson said in addition to strong academics, Highland has a very competitive athletics program and they have several new coaches this year. He said they also have a great Fine Arts program and will be performing *Seussical the Musical* this year.

Mr. Jenson said one area they struggle as a school is in the SAGE testing. He said some of their biggest challenges are attendance and cultural support. He said they need programs that students can identify with and see their cultures reflected. He said they are making efforts to improve their SAGE scores in the Freshman Success Program, through student advocates, with free tutoring programs, college and scholarship advisors, and by providing grades to parents every week via e-mail. He also said student advocates help to monitor attendance.

Mr. Jenson explained the Partnership for Accessing College Education (PACE) program. He said it is a program to give thirty students from each High School a two-year scholarship to Salt Lake Community College. It requires a 2.5 GPA and 90% attendance among other things and makes it easier for students to transfer to the University of Utah. He said he is proud of their participation in the program.

He said other successes include improvements in transportation with more busses being on time, and the YouthLinc program which is sponsored by Valley Behavioral Health and helps refugee students identify a pathway to success.

Mr. Jenson answered questions from board members. Board members and Superintendent Cunningham thanked him for the report.

D. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. Policy B-2, School Board Meetings, Administrative Procedures. President Bennett asked board members if there were any questions that needed to be addressed regarding the changes to this policy. Board members, highlighted the new elements, but didn't have any questions or concerns. President Bennett said the policy would appear on the Consent Agenda for the December 6 Board Meeting.
2. Open/Closed Enrollment Designations for 2017-2018. Superintendent Cunningham said the board would need to review the space audit to determine open enrollment, look at waiting lists, and consider closing campuses.

Cindy Mills, secretary at Wasatch Elementary, came up from the audience and explained how Wasatch handles open enrollment. She explained some of the unique challenges Wasatch has with predicting enrollment. She answered questions from the board about Wasatch's open enrollment.

Board members discussed the idea of adding a second open enrollment window instead of having a waiting list and asked staff to solicit feedback from principals and secretaries. Dr. Cunningham said feedback could be collected by December.

Board members also discussed the importance of communication, noting parents may not understand that applications are honored first come, first served, even during the open enrollment period. Also, principals need to know in some cases accepting more students will actually lower class size, if they have the space to add an additional teacher.

Board members discussed giving preference to students who live within the district boundaries.

3. High School Modernization Update. Larry Madden presented an update on High School Modernization. He said there have been three meetings with High School Administrators to date. They have done a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis as well as looked at the characteristics of a graduate and of a good teacher. The goal is to determine what the end results should be and then work backwards to determine what needs to be done in order to help individuals achieve those outcomes. He said the next step is to get feedback from a larger group.

Superintendent Cunningham said she will be organizing sub groups to start looking at goals for this year, and next year. She said she is excited principals want their students to have more rigor so minimums aren't the goal.

Board members discussed how they would like to be kept updated about progress. They asked Mr. Madden to keep performance results as well as diversity in mind. Dr. Cunningham said she would provide updates in the weekly board memos.

E. ACTION AGENDA

1. Any item transferred from Consent Agenda.

President Bennett said she created a handout to address the specific concerns given for removal of the October 4, 2016, and the October 11, 2016, Board Meeting minutes from the Consent Agenda. She said she drafted proposed changes to the minutes and explained her changes to the board. A copy of the handout has been attached to the official minutes.

Minutes for the Board Meeting, October 4, 2016.

*(2) A motion was made to accept the minutes for the Board Meeting of October 4, 2016. Approval was given to the motion as amended by motion 3.

** (Swett, and Kennedy)

*(3) A motion was made to amend the minutes for the Board Meeting of October 4, 2016, as included on the proposed changes in the handout from President Bennett.

** (Kennedy, and Ford)

Prior to voting, Ms. Swett said she looked up Roberts Rules about calling a recess and felt what happened during the meeting was in compliance. She said there are subtle nuances with different kinds of recesses and situations where a motion is not required if there is consent among board members that could be helpful to review, but overall, the situation was handled professionally.

President Bennett said she wanted to make it clear she was the one who called for the recess, not the Superintendent.

Minutes for the Board Meeting, October 11, 2016

President Bennett said a request was made to include the e-mail from Mr. Stavros, but she feels the only part that should be included is the portion she read in the open meeting. Board members reviewed the proposed changes provided in the handout. President Bennett noted a word had been omitted from the last line of the page 1 revision on the proposed new language handout. This omission has been corrected on the handout added to the official minutes.

* (4) A motion was made to accept the minutes for the Board Meeting, of October 11, 2016.

Approval was given to the motion as amended by motion 5.

** (Kennedy, and Ford)

* (5) A motion was made to amend the minutes for the Board Meeting, of October 11, 2016 as included on the proposed changes in the handout from President Bennett.

** (Swett, and Kennedy)

Prior to voting, board members clarified the statement would be attached to the minutes, but not be included in the minutes themselves. Board members discussed the past practice of attaching items to the minutes only if something was handed out during the meeting, and said some of the confusion regarding why this statement wasn't included was because it was read aloud and not handed out physically.

F. BOARD MEMBER REPORT

1. President Bennett said there will be several meetings at the State Board of Education to discuss the issue of Transfer Rules in high school athletics. She will send updates once the subcommittee meets. She answered questions from board members regarding the rules and the appeals process.

Ms. Ford said she had a list of teacher course loads put together by Board Member Emery. She said Sam Quantz has also put together more comprehensive information, which Dr. Cunningham will e-mail out as part of her weekly report. She said this is helpful to look at as part of the High School Modernization conversation.

Ms. Ford said she would like to look at how we handle substitute teachers, specifically long term substitutes, and how we can retain integrity of instruction when teachers are out. Ms. Kennedy suggested the people most invested in student success are parents and suggested finding a way to tap into the parent population to become substitute teachers.

Ms. Ford said she would also like to talk about how to help students who want to succeed, but aren't. She would like to discuss social emotional components that help students advocate for themselves.

Ms. Min said she would like to see more parents involved in the High School Modernization discussions especially with the counselors. She said it would be helpful for counselors to understand what is going on in student's personal lives and have more interaction with parents.

Ms. Min also reminded board members about Career Week coming up on November 7. She said students have been working hard to put the event together and invited all board members to attend.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Miscellaneous Updates:

Superintendent Cunningham congratulated the National Merit Scholars again and pointed out that there were twenty-one semifinalists from the district. She thanked the teachers and staff who all worked hard to help make that possible.

Superintendent Cunningham recognized John Arthur and Desi Olson who presented at the UEA Conference over the weekend. She said she heard good things about their presentation.

Superintendent Cunningham said National Board Certificate teachers-in-training get together with teachers from Granite School District on a regular basis to talk about going through the process. She recently had the opportunity to participate in one of their meetings and was glad to see the good work they are doing.

Superintendent Cunningham said the recent rededication of the Bryant library was great. Four hundred twenty new books were put on shelves and many of them have already been checked out. Bryant is challenging everyone to read 100 pages per month and encouraged anyone who would like to take the challenge to join in.

Superintendent Cunningham thanked West High for hosting October's Breakfast with the Superintendent. She said it was well attended with about 50 – 60 people. The breakfasts will continue monthly for the rest of the year.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Following a motion by Ms. Swett, seconded by Ms. Sandberg, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Janet M. Roberts
Business Administrator

lba

**Salt Lake City School District
Addition to the Minutes of the Board Meeting 11/01/2016**

OFFICIAL EXHIBITS OF BOARD MEETING

Official exhibits provided to the board and made available to the public as part of the meeting agenda can be found [here](#).

ADDITION TO THE MINUTES

The Board of Education of Salt Lake City School District acts by vote of a majority of the board members in an open and public meeting. Statements by individual board members, in or out of board meetings, written, oral or in social media, do not necessarily represent the views of the majority of the board or any other board member. Nevertheless, out of respect to the elected office that each board member holds and consistent with state law and board policy, the board allows its members to attach to board meeting minutes any other information that any member requests. When the board votes to approve minutes, that vote signifies that the minutes are a correct record of what occurred and what was asked to be included in the minutes. It does not signify any individual board member's agreement with the substance of the content.

The following information was distributed in the public meeting of the board, and has been included in the minutes at the request of the board member(s):

Fall Enrollment 2016 Update
Proposed Changes to the 10/4/16 and 10/11/16 Minutes

[Agenda Item A](#)
[Agenda Item E1](#)